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BEGINNING on June 2, the Boston Society of Natural History proposes to open its museum free to the public on Sunday afternoons from 1 to 5, during June, July, August and September of this year. The exhibition rooms are regularly open free on Wednesday and Saturday from 10 till 5, but it is believed that the Sunday afternoon opening will accommodate many who are unable to visit the museum on week days. For the last five years, under the direction of its curator, Mr. Charles W. Johnson, the society has expended its efforts in endeavoring to make the New England collections the chief display of the museum so that at the present time a very good representation of the New England fauna is on exhibition. It is the society's intention to build up the New England collection of animals and plants so that it shall be as nearly complete as possible. In addition to the specimens on exhibition, there is also a rapidly growing study collection of birds, shells, insects and plants which may be consulted upon application to the curator on week days. Since this is the only natural history museum in the city and the only one whose particular scope is limited to the preservation and study of the New England fauna and flora, it is hoped that this action on the part of the society in opening its museum to visitors on Sundays will arouse additional interest in the study of New England natural history and that the museum may be a center to which all who are interested in this study shall feel themselves welcome.

The New York Medical Record states that the Carnegie Institution of Washington, which has been bearing most of the cost of publication of the present series of the *Index Medicus*, announces that as the journal has not met with the support from the profession that was hoped for, unless it appears that the *Index Medicus* is of greater service to the medical profession and can help to support itself to a greater extent than in the past, it may become advisable to discontinue its publication. The *Index Medicus* was established in 1879, under the editorship of Dr. John S.

Billings and Dr. Robert Fletcher, and was discontinued in 1899. The present series began with the number for January, 1903.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

ANNOUNCEMENT is made that the sum of \$430,000 has been contributed to Columbia University towards erecting Kent Hall, a building for the school of law and the faculty of political science.

THE Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, graduated, at its eighty-second annual commencement held on June 3, 126 students, of which 105 had received hospital appointments in the recent competitive examinations.

THE University of Giessen will celebrate its three-hundredth anniversary from July 31 to August 4.

PROFESSOR A. J. HOPKINS, A.B., Amherst, '85, Ph.D., Hopkins, '93, associate professor of chemistry at Amherst College, has been appointed head of the department in view of the retirement of Professor Elijah P. Harris.

AT Dartmouth College promotions from instructor to assistant professor have been made as follows: Charles A. Proctor, mathematics; Julius A. Brown, physics; Dr. Charles E. Bolser, chemistry.

AT Clark College, Dr. J. B. Porter has been promoted to an assistant professorship in psychology, and Dr. F. B. Williams, of Union College, has been called to an assistant professorship of mathematics.

MR. H. F. ROLKER, of the Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed private research assistant to Dr. J. Bishop Tingle, recently appointed to the chair of chemistry at the McMaster University, Toronto.

DR. ALEXANDER HILL has announced his intention of resigning from the mastership of Downing College, Cambridge.

MR. H. BATEMAN, fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been elected to the readership in mathematical physics, endowed by Professor Arthur Schuster to encourage research in mathematical physics.